

Program Policy Meeting Minutes – 1/24/08

Participants: Val Mattfeldt , Sally Mueller, Melody Olson, Chauntel Lucier, Sheila Reep, Sheilah Mevis, Pat Knoepke, Bobbi Goff, Carrie Leu, Barb Perzinski
Dan McCarthy
Guest: Kim Richter

Chairperson needs to be replaced: Sheilah Mevis was nominated and elected

Food Program Policy SH CACFP 205-5:

- *Sheila Reep is representing CACFP Sponsor's Association.
- *5 day meal reconciliation
- *Implemented in 2005
- *The past Policy is very punitive
- *Meal disallowance is when attendance & records can not be reconciled.

History:

- *Federal policy sponsor goes out 3 times/year 2 of which are unannounced. There is a designated time period where they have to look at a 5 day period. A week during the preceding month. If the records don't match then meals need to be disallowed.
- *There is a 3 month "training" period for learning & mistakes without disallowing meals.
- *State agency is looking at all policies to revisit those that are not attached to admin rules and they will go away.
- *If there are gray areas let's use them. Our providers are professional & may make mistakes, but let's help them.

*There is enough guidelines & checks and balances to make sure that the policies are being maintained without this punitive form.

*Reviews of the sponsoring agencies require the state staff to go out and review a certain %age of homes. The same 5 day meals are reviewed. The comparisons occur.

*The month of the review is what will be compared.

*If a discrepancy occurs meals will be disallowed.

*This form needs to match what is happening out in the field by both the sponsoring agencies & the state agency.

*CACFP sponsors are asking for this form to go away.

*Input

*Regional FNS says this form

*This form is OK doesn't violate any of the CACFP rules.

*ARM citations etc. need to be added to this form.

*This really is punitive to the smaller facilities.

*A request was made

*MN:

*2 forms are designed to be used in the field. The last 5 consecutive day meals are looked at if there is a discrepancy they will go back further to look at a pattern in the problems. Then there is a disallowance and that is it.

*If they see a pattern they look at further training, T&TA, what is the problem and possibly to a plan of correction.

*People are dropping off the CACFP because of the negative connotation & slap on the hand.

*Mistakes happen with the paperwork and it happens. Corrective actions makes you feel belittled according to a child care provider.

*The committee's recommendations are

1. The policy should reflect the less restrictive Federal 7 CFR 226 & not the more restrictive policy error charting at the bottom of the MT CACFP Policy.

2. Timing needs to be looked at also of the action.
This policy to go into effect no later than 3/1/08.

3. The 5 day meal reconciliation should be the month prior to the visit or the last month claimed.

Good Cause for Child Support:

It is the recommendation of this committee that individuals registered on the Sex & Violent Registry & policy are seen as a perceived threat and that it meets the criteria of good cause.

*The State needs to look at the Good Cause Form and revise it to reflect these recommendations.

LUP background check and subcommittee

Table, group working with the governor's office in regards to background checks for direct caregivers. Table this for the moment. Premature to spend any time on this.

*Need a subcommittee/conference call about this situation.

*Talk to Mary Jane about her situation.

Closure Letters:

It is recommended that an automatic closure notice, going to both the provider & the family, and generated at the time of closure by the caseworker. This would go to the CCub's User Group. An update to this policy will need to occur.

- *Customer Service is an issue

- *Admin Reviews are costly etc.

- *Programmer's will need to note that the date of closure is when the certification ended and not when the worker actually closed the case.

Student work requirements as a full time student:

This would be a rule change. Check that there is a one semester waiver available.

6 hours as a full day:

What is the status of the 6 month Monthly Pilot Project.

- *This would be rule change. Cost associated to this needs to occur.

- *What is the price tag & what will it look like?

- *Sally & Chauntel will look @ the different perceptions & bring it to the committee.

Military Foods & Income Disregard:

Kim Richter came from GF. We are asking that the policy be changed to reflect what the Gov't

counts. BAH is counted BAS(Food) is not counted against them when looking at the sliding fee scale on base. The parents then have the choice of using a community based provider or a provider on base (which are usually full).

Tuesday Through Friday Care

It is this committee's recommendation that this is not something that the Department needs to handle.

It is recommended that the minutes of Sept 27, 2007 be approved with the changes done. Name spelling corrections.

Remember any Agenda items need to go to Chauntel